**Renovation of tourist places**

1608. SHRIMATI PREMACARIAPPA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Goverment has any plan to renovate various tourist places including the places of Historical Monuments, so as to attract more number of tourists from within and aboard;

(b) if so, die details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reason therefor?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) The conservation, preservation, structural repairs and environmental development and provision of visitors' facilities at protected monuments is undertaken by the Archaeological Survey of India in accordance with the archaeological norms subject to availability of resources. However, The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India also extends financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations under the Scheme of 'Product/ Infrastructure Development for Destinations and Circuits' for development of tourism related infrastructure including restoration and renovation of historical monuments.

During the Xth Five Year Plan, the Ministry of Tourism has sanctioned financial assistance of Rs. 2012.02 crore for 1160 projects to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations for development and promotion of tourism in the States/Union Territories including renovation of historical monuments.

(c) Does not arise.

**Tourist places in Bihar**

† 1609. PROF. RAM DEO BHANDARY: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) what are the names of the places of historical, cultural and tourist importance in the Mithilanchal of Bihar;

(b) what are the names/out of the above mentioned places where development and beautification work is being undertaken; and

(c) what action is being taken by Government to look into the possibilities of tourism in Mithilanchal?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) and (b) The Department of Tourism, Government of Bihar has identified some places of historical, cultural and tourist importance' in Mithilanchal which are Ahilya Asthan, Kamtaul, Kalidas Ashram, Ucchath, Kusheshwar Asthan in Darbhanga District; Chitra Gram, Ranti Girija Asthan, Madhubani in Madhubani District; Chandi Asthan, Tara Asthan and Matsyagandha Lake in Saharasa District; Singheshwar Asthan and Bisu Raut Mandir in Madhepura District and Vidyapati Nagar in District Samastipur.

Department of Tourism, Government of Bihar has already undertaken development and beautification of Ahilya Asthan and Kamtaul.

(c) Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial assistance to the State Governments/Union Territory Administrations

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

for tourism related projects which are identified in consultation and interaction with them under the schemes for Product/Infrastructure Development of Destinations/Circuits and Assistance to Large Revenue Generating Projects.

A List of projects sanctioned to the State of Bihar during the Tenth Plan period is given at Statement *{See* below).

Ministry of Tourism through its overseas offices, domestic offices, website, media campaigns and publicity and collateral material promotes tourism to all States of India including Bihar.

***Statement***

*Projects Sanctioned To The State Of Bihar During The Tenth Plan Period*

(Rs. in lakh)

| SI. No. | Name of the Project | Amount Sancted. |
|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 |
| | 2002-03 | |
| 1. | Integrated Development of Vaishaii-Nalanda-Rajgir-Bodhgaya-Varanasi Circuit | 505.00 |
| 2. | Installation of HAARC System at Mahabodhi Temple, Bodhgaya | 12.00 |
| | Total | 517.00 |
| | 2003-04 | |
| 1. | Upgadation of roads connecting monasteries and construction of pavements/signages in Bodhgaya | *5.99* |
| 2. | Development of Nepura Village (Distt. Nalanda) under Rural Tourism | 50.00 |
| 3. | Development schemes for Bodhgaya (Phase II) in Bihar under scheme of destination development | 462.53 |
| 4. | Development of Nava Nalanda Mahavthara as pilgrim destination as part of Bihar-Nalanda Tourist Circuit | 352.00 |
| 5. | Development scheme for landscape Development around Tomb of Malik Ibrahim Bayyu and Temple surroundings at Biharasharif, Nalanda. | 134.00 |
| 6. | Dedication Ceremony and Boudh Mahotsav | 15.00 |
| | Total | 101942 |
| | 2004-05 | |
| *I.* | Construction of new High School Building and shifting of existing High School from frontage Mayasarovar Lake, Bodhgaya | 33.11 |
| 2. | Eco-Tourism Development at Bhimbandh (Munger) | 427.00 |
| 3. | Development of Tourist Resort at Maner | 407.20 |
| 4. | Eco-Tourism Development of Valmiki Nagar (West Champaran) | 300.00 |
| 5. | Development of Vishnu Vihar at Gaya | 271.06 |
| 6. | Construction of Tourist Comples at Maner Sharif Patna under destination development | 500.00 |

| 1 | 2 | 3 |
|---|---|---|
| 7. | GOI-UNDP Endogenous Tourism Project—Nepura in Nalanda Distt. | 20.00 |
| | Total | 1958.43 |
| | 2005-06 | |
| 1. | Development of Bodhgaya-Rajgir-Nalanda under the scheme of Tourist Circuit | 768.12 |
| 2. | Harihar Kshetra (Sonepur) Fair, 2005 | 0.99 |
| 3. | Integrated Development of Kanwaria Route Circuit from Sultanganj to Deoghar in Bihar | 443.12 |
| | Total | 1212.23 |
| | 2006-07 | |
| 1. | Development of Tourist Circuit-Bodhgaya-Rajgir-Nalanda under Major Project Scheme | 1922.42 |
| 2. | CFA for the project— Information Technology in the State Tourism Development of Bihar | 14.87 |
| | Total | 1937.29 |

**Gourmet Tourism in India**

1610. SHRI SHAHID SIDDIQUI: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government has formed some policies to propagate and popularize "Gourmet Tourism" in India;

(b) what steps have been taken to popularize South Indian Cuisine in different parts of the world; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) The Ministry of Tourism promotes and popularizes Indian cuisine including South Indian cuisine through India Evenings and Food Festivals organized by India tourism Offices in the country and abroad from time to time. Indian cuisine is also promoted at various international fairs and through publicity material such as brochures, Compact Discs etc.

**Destination Development Project in MP**

†1611. SHRIMATI SUSHMA SWARAJ: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that many projects of Madhya Pradesh under the 'Destination Development' are pending with her Ministry;

(b) if so, the names of these projects alongwith the latest positions thereof; and

(c) whether any time limit has been fixed to complete these pending projects?

THE MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRIMATI AMBIKA SONI): (a) to (c) Development and promotion of tourism is undertaken primarily by the State Government/Union TerritoryAdministrations. The Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, extends financial

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